

The Grapevine

Newsletter for

CSOTFA

California State Old Time Fiddlers Association, District 6



February 2017

Message From the Editors









Celebrate Valentine's Day with love and music!

It will bring sunshine and smiles into your life and also those you give it to! If you have love and music to share, but don't know how or where to give it, contact us here in District 6, and we will set you up! Send any correspondence to PO Box 990462, Redding CA 96099-0462. And of course, you can always email carolyncork@gmail.com, or george.fredson@yahoo.com.

February Schedule/Upcoming Events

February 5 – Jam Session: 1-4:30pm Free Old Time Fiddle Concert: 2pm Open mic after the concert. At St. James Lutheran Church, 2500 Shasta View Drive, Redding (First Sundays)

February 19 – Free Old Time Fiddle Concert and Open Mic: 2-4pm, at Palo Cedro Community Center, 22037 Old Forty-Four Drive (Third Sundays)

July 22 –Save the Date! The Third Annual Summer Mountain Music and Arts Festival will take place again this summer!

Non-Club Events

February 2 – The Redding Bluegrass Jam on the first THURSDAY of the month: 6-8pm at Dill's Deli, 5132 Caterpillar Rd, Redding. The format will be strictly Bluegrass Music. For more information, go to the Facebook page, or email reddingbluegrassjam@gmail.com

Thursdays – 6:30pm Scottish Country Dance: Palo Cedro Community Center, 22037 Old Forty-Four Drive. Live Music. "You don't need a partner. Wear comfortable shoes and bring water. This dancing is lively and energetic. All dances taught and walked then danced. This is a fun evening for all." Each Thursday evening,

6:30-8:30PM. Cost \$6. For more info. http://www.meetup.com/reddingdancegroup/ Or (530) 347-0825.

February - Contra Dance: Odd Fellows hall in Palo Cedro IOOF/Rebekah Hall - Off of Hwv 44 22551 Silverlode Lane \$8 admission/\$4 students.

For info and updates http://reddingfolkdance.blogspot.com, or reddingfd@gmail.com

February 14, 16th—Nu-Blu, Bluegrass Band from N. Carolina, will be performing here: Churn Creek Cellars, Anderson on the 14th Community Fundraising Concert on the 16th Information: www.abbiesmusicbox.com, or (530)515-6202.

April 11-15th 2017: Julian Family Fiddle Camp

Contact: R. Avery Ellisman, Director

Phone: (760) 522-8458

Email: info@familyfiddlecamp.com

"The Julian Family Fiddle Camp (JFFC) is a five-day music immersion program for people of all ages and musical abilities. JFFC is held each April at the rural family retreat center near the historic mining town of Julian, CA. All meals, instruction, camp-based activities (swimming, archery, climbing tower) and evening concerts are provided for a single fee."

(as always, please confirm dates and times before attending an event)

Dist 6 Fundraiser—Summer Mountain Music and Arts Concert, in Manton 2017

The planning committee got off to a great start in January with the kick-off meeting for our festival. We have got some great new ideas in all the works, from the food vendor to the art organizers. We are filling the committee positions responsible for the different operations and hope to have a more full report by the next month's newsletter. We are looking at bringing in some great bands, some new,

some old. Please save the date, Saturday July 22, 2017, and tell your friends and family too. We want to use the funds from this project to help our fledgling fiddle scholarship program, along with other expenses necessary to the club, such as sound equipment maintenance. Our first year was a wonderful success, the second year proved it was no fluke, and we are confident this third year will be even better!

Scottish Country Dancers By Peggy Randolph

If you have been following the upcoming events section, you will have seen information regarding the Scottish Country Dancers. We would just like to encourage you to check this event out. From the organizer—

The Scottish Country dancers meet each Thursday evening from 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm at the Palo Cedro Community Hall (formerly the Grange Hall) on Old Forty-four Drive in Palo Cedro, and everyone is invited.

On the first and third Thursdays of the month we feature live music with State Fiddle Champ Nicki Carlisle and her band (unless they're on the road playing somewhere else).

We would love for people to stop in and enjoy the music and try dancing. All dances are taught and walked then danced. It's really fun and good exercise for the mind and body. It also has a strong historical value, as many elements of American square dance and Contra dance evolved from Scottish dancing.

Please call me if you have questions 347-0825 or just stop by any Thursday night from now until the end of June when we take a break for summer.



Watch NuBlu!

--Abbie Ehorn

Here's a save-the-date! The bluegrass band, Nu-Blu from North Carolina is on a West Coast Tour. They are doing three assemblies at my schools and two different concerts.

On Tuesday, February 14, (Valentines Day) we are putting together a smaller concert at Churn Creek Cellars in Anderson. http://www.churncreekcellars.com. What better way to celebrate turning 49 than listening to bluegrass and drinking wine? The time will be 6:00. Details about purchasing tickets for Tuesdays Valentine/Wine show coming soon.

Thursday, February 16 they will be doing a community fundraising concert at Evergreen Elementary Gym 7:00 the tickets will be \$10 for that one and available at the school offices and on Eventbrite.

https://www.eventbrite.com/e/evergreen-school-district-fundraiser-tickets-31239009719

--Here's a little about the band—

Nu-Blu has been bringing their form of Country-Americana fusion to the masses with recent national TV appearances, Billboard and radio charting, and even a #1 most played song on Sirius/XM radio! https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T6AYPFn2k9o.Contact: www.abbiesmusicbox.com (530)515-6202

Feature Article: A Short History of Fiddling and the California State Old Time Fiddlers Association, part 4

Written by: Kenneth Leivers, 1974 www.northstatefiddlers.com
Page 5.0 of 7, of a serialized article

1967

Redella Calkins continued to serve as president of the California State Old-Time Fiddlers' Association during 1967 and Arlene Lommen served as secretary. The Board of Directors for 1967 included Doug Ward, Grant Spangenberg, Dudley Whitlock, Ray McGlone, Jim Midworth, Elsie Peterson, Arnold Lommen, Jody Waltman, Harold Waltman, Frank Knight, and Olaf Lee.

In January members from both Paradise-Oroville and the Sacramento Fiddlers were active in planning for the April fiddle contest in Paradise. At the first monthly meeting, it was decided to have a No Holds Barred division and to award a new Kelley Kirksey trophy for "Best Liked Fiddler" at the contest. A system of scoring was established wherein of the scores of the five judges, the high and low score were to be eliminated when figuring the score of the contestant. Ray McGlone was appointed as one of the Masters of Ceremonies for the upcoming contest. A vacant Safeway store in Paradise was selected as the site of the "hospitality house." Sue Gunn and Ferrel McGrath were the hostesses and the Ridge Runner Square dance group from Paradise was to man the hospitality house. Tumbleweed Turner from Bakersfield agreed to do a recording of the contest for a record and promote its sales. The next day after the meeting, the Directors of the California State Association decided that the coming State Finals in April would be named the California Open State Finals. The contest would thus be open to contestants from all states and a California Resident Champion could be chosen from the top scores of Californians competing. During the last part of January, Redella Calkins had been in contact with 'Fiddling De' DeRyke,

president of both the American Old-Time Fiddlers Association and of the Nebraska Old-Time Fiddlers Association. Kelley Kirksey was vice-president of the American Old-Time Fiddlers Association. By letter, Calkins and DeRyke discussed the California State Association's announcement of its affiliation with the American Association. This would give the California State Association both affiliation with the American and certification by the National Association.

The second annual California Open State Old-Time Fiddlers' Contest held in conjunction with the Paradise Gold Nugget Days celebration in April, took two days - the preliminary rounds on Friday and the finals on Saturday. Judges for the contest included Cy Widener, J.H. Geers, Ray Giles, Cliff Baker, and Kelley Kirksey. The judging was done "Weiser style" by "remote control" with the judges in a different room than the contestants, thus the judges could hear a fiddler play, but not be influenced by a fiddler's ability as an entertainer. Folk singers and musicians provided entertainment between the rounds of fiddling. In spite of inclement weather, over 100 musicians and 50 fiddlers attended. Forty trophies and \$1,300 in cash prizes were awarded in the Senior, Junior, Woman's, and Open State Finals divisions. The title of Open State Champion went to Harold Allen, Runners up were Lloyd Wanzer, second; Bill Yohey, third; Dwayne Youngblood, fourth; Delbert McGrath, fifth; Jay Belt, sixth; Jimmy Miller, seventh; Rusty Modrell, eighth; Gerald Prock, ninth; and L.D. Moshier, tenth. The California State Resident Championship was awarded to Delbert McGrath and he would represent California at Weiser in June. In the Senior division, Charles Johnson took first, Lue Berline was second. Charles Waer third, and Frank Knight and George Smith tied for fourth. Dwayne Youngblood and his son from Idaho took first in the No Holds Barred contest. Kirksey's trophy for Best Liked Fiddler went to Lue Berline. Tumbleweed Turner, the other Master of Ceremonies at this contest, recorded

the top fiddlers for a long-playing record afterwards.

Due to the growth in membership, the California State Association decided in the spring, to continue the regular monthly meetings in Paradise and to hold four larger meetings each year to bring together statewide members. Besides the Board of Directors. there were also to be representatives to the Board appointed from other parts of the state. Fiddlers from Bakersfield held a small contest in Kernville in February. During the summer, the Sacramento Fiddlers sponsored small contests in Fiddletown, Shingle Springs, and Fair Oaks. Fiddlers living in Paradise and Oroville were active in putting on fiddle shows in a wide variety of settings including a Grange picnic, a barbeque and rodeo, and a box social. Sacramento, Paradise, and Oroville fiddlers did a television show for KXTV, Sacramento in May. At Weiser in June, virtually California State entire Association membership was present for the festival. The idea of creating districts of fiddlers in California probably developed in Weiser, for it was discussed at the July general meeting of the California State Association. Members in Bakersfield (with L.D. Moshier and Tumbleweed Turner) and Los Angeles (with the Moores) were active as each area had a growing group of fiddlers. At the July meeting, California the State Association restructured to include a semi-annual general state-wide meeting, quarterly Board meetings, and monthly district meetings. An Advisory Council was established to meet twice monthly to consider the subject of districting.

The Bakersfield contest is the last event in 1967 for which data was available. The planning for this large contest began in May and was finalized in June. Besides normal draw at the gate, the Kern County Fair officials anticipated that 150 fiddlers would pay \$25 each to compete in the Champion division and that these revenues would support the cost of the contest. Fewer than 50 fiddlers entered the competition in all divisions. Comparable to the Paradise contest earlier in the year, the big money went out of state. Winners in the Open

Division were: first place, Harold Allen; second, Jay Belt; third, Ronald Hughey; fourth, Dwayne Youngblood; and fifth, C.G. Johnson. In the Senior division, first place went to James Turner, second to Van Cunningham, third to Charlie Waer, and fourth to Frank Knight. Marilyn Cunningham took first in the Junior division and Timothy Rued (Kirksey's grandson) was second. Lloyd Wanzer won first in the No Holds Barred division. Delbert McGrath was second in this division. Nellie O'Neal of the Sacramento Fiddlers won first prize as an accompanist. Dwayne Youngblood of Idaho got the Kirksey Award for the Best Liked Fiddler.

At the Bakersfield contest, the large prizes apparently frightened the average fiddler from entering, although the audience was composed of many good fiddlers who had traveled long distances to see the contest. The judging was headed by Kelley Kirksey. He said that it was difficult work because "the top four contestants tied for first place, and two run-offs were necessary before a final winner could be chosen." Before the run-offs, the fifth place winner was only one point below the top man. 1968

Ray Giles, a fiddler who had played professionally during the 1930s and now lived in Yankee Hill above Oroville, was elected president of the California State Old-Time Fiddler's Association for 1968. The other officers included Doug Ward as vice-president and also a secretary and treasurer. No Board of Directors served that year.

The May 1968 contest in Oroville was held in conjunction with the Oroville Regatta Days Celebration. This California State Championship Fiddle Contest was small compared to that in 1967. The judges were Tom Heath, Kelley Kirksey, and Arnold Lommen. Jay Belt took first place, Jess Hall second, Floyd Chilton third, Earl Jennings fourth, Doug Ward fifth, and Ray Krogstead sixth. Essentially, the contest was put on by and for the Paradise-Oroville and Sacramento groups of fiddlers.

Part 5.5 next month...

******D6 Band News and Bios:*******

The Down Home String Band

(plus Kathy Kampschmidt, Nicki's twin fiddle partner)



Left to right: Lee Brushett, Nicki Carlisle, Kathy Kampschmidt, Barry Breen, Don Nichols, George Fredson, and Lloyd Raeg

What would District 6, and Redding, do without the Down Home String Band? This group of enthusiastic and reliable entertainers are a fixture at music events needing some enjoyable acoustic songs and melodies.

The Mountain Messengers

Fun at the CalVet Home! The MM gathered there Jan 25 to jam when a special friend, Penn McClatchey from Georgia, was in town to swap fancy licks with the band and other musicians. And a good time was had by all!



The members include Honey Storlie, vocals, Gerry Goldman, banjo, Lloyd Raeg, guitar, mandolin and vocals, Don Palmer, resonator guitar and banjo, Daniel Lindberg, bass, fiddle, mandolin, and vocals, George Fredson, guitar and vocals.

This six member (sometimes seven) band plays a variety of Americana Music including Bluegrass, Gospel, and some contemporary songs that always leave their audience begging for more.

They play at Copper Ridge, and at the California Veterans Home every Wednesday. Lately Jade Johnson has been practicing and singing with the band.

Neighborhood Swing Trio

3 lifetime musicians: Diana Kelley (accordion), Joy Stander (clarinet), John Tiedeman (mandolin, guitar).

Styles: Swing (standards + western); Gospel; Celtic; Bluegrass; German (polkas)

"We support and represent the mission of CSOTFA District 6."

Old Kennett String Band



Tim Garrison (Mandolin), Carolyn Faubel (Bass) Amy Vogt (banjo), George Fredson (Guitar),.

We are a 4-Piece string band playing and singing Bluegrass and Old Time Music in the Redding and Shasta County area.

The OKSB is a supporting band for CSOTFA, D-6.

The OKSB continues holding one Tuesday "performance/practice" per month at Dill's Deli, 5132 Caterpillar Rd, Redding, 6:30-8:30pm. Anybody is welcome to come and listen. The next date is February 21. You can keep up with the news and dates by checking out our Facebook page, Old Kennett String Band.

Do you have news on your band? Submit to the editor for publication.

Band Bios/Press Releases Needed!

Calling all Bands! District 6 would like to have your information available to help fulfill the musical needs of the community, and we would also like to help you promote your band. Often we get asked to provide music for various

community events, and we would like to have a good list and printable information to refer to. We feel that this activity is in keeping with our musical mission as a California State Non-Profit organization. We would like to create a band directory in the Grapevine, and we can also add it to our website.

Please send your file to george.fredson@yahoo.com. And indicate whether your band:

- A) Represents CSOTFA (portrays the style of music, Old Time Fiddling, that is described in our charter.
- B) Supports CSOTFA (helps at club events and activities with music that is in a related genre, such as Bluegrass, Celtic, Folk, Gospel).
- C) Either, as needed.

Classifieds:

FOR SALE

Vintage (1975) Takamine guitar EF 340. New condition, played only 5-10 hours. \$350 Together with a Kustom Amplifier KAA 35TH DFX. Same condition as guitar. \$175 FRANK LOFTIS Phone. 243-4674

We will run classified ads for instruments and other musical-related items. If you do sell the item, we ask that you make a donation back to the Grapevine to help with costs.

Fiddle Teachers Directory

- Kathy Kampschmidt: (530) 934-4749, kdkampy@sbcglobal.net
- Tex & Sharon, Pat Scott, Rich Reynolds and Becky Huskey: a community fiddle and string program in Red Bluff: oldtimejamband@gmail.com. Also at Old Time Jam Band on Facebook

If you are a local fiddle teacher, we'd love to add you to our contact list!

To add to or update your contact information, please contact the editor at carolyncork@gmail.com



Advertising in The Grapevine

6 month run: 1/8 page (about 3.5" x 2") = \$25 1/4 page (about 3.5" x 4.5") = \$40 (larger sizes, inquire)



FIDDLE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM NOW ACTIVE!

CSOTFA District 6 has gotten its new fiddle scholarship program launched and applications have gone out! Who is eligible? Any fiddle student between the ages of 7-18, with a need. If you are interested, please contact your current or prospective fiddle teacher, who will obtain

an application for you. We must receive the completed application by February 8. For information and applications, contact carolyncork@gmail.com or George.Fredson@yahoo.com.

What is the Nashville Number System? And Why Should I Care?

In brief, from Wikipedia, "The Nashville Number System, (also referred to as NNS) is similar to (movable-do) Solfège, which uses "Do Re Mi Fa Sol La Ti" to represent the seven scale degrees of the Major scale. However the NNS instead uses numbers to represent each of the scale degrees. In the key of C, the numbers would correspond as follows: C=1, D=2, E=3, F=4, G=5, A=6, B=7. In the key of B, the numbers would be B, C=2, D=3, E, E=4, F=5, G=6, A=7. The key may be specified at the top of the chart, or given orally by the bandleader, record producer or lead singer.

The numbers do not change when transposing the composition into another key. They are simply relative to the new root note. The only knowledge required is to know the major scale for the given key. Unless otherwise notated, all numbers represent major chords, and each chord should be played for one measure."

What does that mean practically speaking? Have you ever been in a jam, or playing along in an open mic, and you are a little unfamiliar with the chord changes? Especially if at the last minute, they changed the key to fit the singer! The leader will sometimes hold up a number of fingers in anticipation of the next change, and those are your "cheat sheet!"

Our Club Members at Work!

There are a lot of community outreach activities that our club members participate in, and perhaps none quite so rewarding as giving the gift of music to the elderly residing in our area care homes. To give you and idea of that, and to give them a well-deserved "Hurrah!", here is what's happening as of Feb. 1, 2017. Old Time Fiddlers: Anne Huber, Lee Brushett, George Fredson & Friends

Golden Umbrella Senior Activity Center
Golden Living Center
Copper Ridge Care Center
St. Lorenz Assisted Living Center
Kindred Transitional Care And Rehabilitation Canyonwood
Oakdale Heights
Crestwood Wellness and Recovery Center
Marquis Shasta Recovery Center

Old Kennett String Band: Amy Vogt, Carolyn Faubel, George Fredson

The Vistas Assisted Living and Memory Care Golden Umbrella Senior Activity Center

The Mountain Messengers: Gerry Goldman, Lloyd Raeg, Honey Storlie, Jade Johnson, Daniel Lindberg, George Fredson

Willow Springs Alzheimer's Special Care Ctr Copper Ridge Care Center

The Down Home String Band: *Nicki Carlisle, Lee Brushett, Lloyd Raeg, Don Nichols, Barry Breen, George Fredson*

Senior Nutrition Center - Mercy Oaks Copper Ridge Care Center Mercy Oaks Village Senior Living Center

If you or your group is doing some form of public musical outreach, let us know so we can share that in the Grapevine.

CSOTFA – District 6 is a part of the California State Old Time Fiddlers Association. We are a California non-profit and U.S. IRS 501 (c) (3) IRS #23-7288853 Charitable Corporation, formed to educate about and perpetuate the art and cultural heritage of Authentic Old-Time Fiddle Music.



Redding, CA 96099-0462

6.S.O.T.F.A. - District 6

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